

Ad Valorem Tax	A tax levied on the assessed value of real and personal property. Also referred to as a property tax.
Appraised Value	The market value of real property, personal property, and utilities as determined by the County Appraiser.
Appropriation	Expenditure authority approved by the governing body with specific limitations as to the amount, purpose, and time.
Assessed Value	The official value placed on real estate, personal property, and utilities as a basis for levying taxes. The value is determined by applying a mathematical factor to the appraised value. The value is also determined by the property classification; residential real estate is assessed at 11.5%.
Bond	Process for the long-term borrowing of funds. Sedgwick County uses bonds to finance large capital projects. Lenders, the purchasers of the bonds, are repaid the principal amount in annual installments and accrued interest semiannually.
Budget	A financial plan of operation which includes an estimate of proposed revenues and expenditures for a fiscal year. A formal budget constitutes a legal spending limit for local governments in Kansas and provides a level of control for most government activities.
Budget Adoption	A formal process by which the budget is approved by the governing body.
Budget Amendment	The legal means by which an adopted budget may be increased. The Budget may only be increased with revenues other than ad valorem taxes. The amendment process follows similar steps as the budget adoption.
Budget Publication	A legal step toward formal budget adoption. To meet legal requirements, the public must be notified of budget proposals via local print media.
Capital Budget	A one-year budget approved by the County Commission, outlining the selection and timing of capital expenditure projects. It prioritizes projects and provides funding mechanisms.
Capital Improvement	A long-term plan of facility and infrastructure enhancement. Sedgwick County uses a Program (CIP) five-year term for capital planning.
Contractual Services	Costs of services provided by external entities.
Debt Service	Payments of interest and repayment of principal to holders of Sedgwick County bonds and other debt instruments.
Department	An organizational unit which is functionally unique in delivery of services. A department may contain one or more programs.
Disbursement	The actual payout of funds; an expenditure.

Division	A functionally similar grouping of County departments, such as the Finance Division which includes the departments of Accounting, Budget, Purchasing and Risk Management. Most of Sedgwick County's Divisions are headed by a single Division Director who reports directly to the County Manager.
Employee Benefits	Social Security, retirement, unemployment compensation, and health/life/dental insurance for eligible employees is paid for and provided by Sedgwick County through the payroll process.
Encumbrance	A commitment of funds, though actual disbursement has not yet occurred.
Enterprise Fund	An accounting entity for recording revenues and expenditures of government services that are mostly self-supporting.
Expenditure	An outlay of cash for the purpose of acquiring an asset or providing a service.
Expenditure Class line item code prefixes are as follows:	<p>A grouping of similar expenditures. Expenditure classes and their respective Sedgwick County line item code prefixes are as follows:</p> <p>Personnel (4) - expenditures for direct personnel compensation and employee benefits. Examples include Salaries and Wages, Overtime Pay, and Health and Life Insurance.</p> <p>Contractual Services (5) - expenditures for goods and services received from outside sources by contractual agreement, including debt service and utilities.</p> <p>Commodities (6) - expenditures for consumable goods purchased on a regular basis, or minor operating equipment with unit costs less than \$1,000.</p> <p>Capital Improvements (7) - expenditures for approved capital projects, including building design and construction, road and bridge construction, and land acquisition.</p> <p>Capital Outlay (8) - expenditures related to the purchase of equipment and other fixed assets with a unit cost greater than \$1,000.</p> <p>Interfund Expenditures (9) - expenditures for services provided by other County departments.</p>
Fiscal Year in an organization. The fiscal year for Sedgwick County	A twelve-month period designated as the operating year for accounting and budgeting purposes in an organization. The fiscal year for Sedgwick County coincides with the calendar year.
Full-Time Equivalent	A method of quantifying and allocating staffing levels, based on a full-time (FTE) work schedule. One worker may perform functions for several programs, and that person's salary and benefits would be divided among those programs for funding according to how much of the person's time is spent for each program. For example, a person who devoted 3 days of work per week to one program would be assessed against that program as 0.6 (24 hours divided by 40) FTE.
Fund	An accounting entity for recording expenditures and revenues, comparable to an individual bank account. Funds are established to account for specific activities and are subject to special limitations.

General Fund	A fund which accounts for County services that are not otherwise specified. The General Fund includes most general government and law enforcement functions and receives the broadest variety of revenues of all funds.
Grant	A monetary contribution by a government or an organization to financially support a particular function or purpose.
Internal Service Fund	An accounting entity used to account for services provided to internal organizational units rather than the general public.
Investment Income	Interest earned on public tax funds being held until expended or distributed to other units of government in the County. Investments can only be made in instruments specified by state law and the County's investment policy.
Levy	A compulsory collection of monies or the imposition of taxes.
Line Item	The most detailed unit of budgetary expenditures listed in the Sedgwick County budgets. Line items are tracked by four-digit object codes with the first digit representing the expenditure category. For example, in the 4100 object code for the Salaries and Wages line item, the 4 denotes the personnel expenditure category.
Mill	A monetary unit used to express the property tax rate. One mill is equivalent to one-thousandth of a dollar, or \$1 of tax per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.
Minor Apparatus	Camera equipment, office furniture, laboratory equipment, wrenches and tools, and equipment less than \$1,000.
Performance Measure departments and divisions.	A quantitative means of assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of services performed by departments and divisions.
Program	A functional budgetary subdivision, usually within departments. Three-digit numeric codes are used to segregate specific programs or projects.
Restricted Unencumbered Cash	Carryover cash from previous year that has been earmarked to fund services in the current year's budget.
Revenue	A source of income which finances governmental operations.
Revenue Class	<p>A grouping of similar revenues. Revenue classes found in the Sedgwick County budget system are listed below with their assigned object code prefixes:</p> <p>Taxes (31) - ad valorem, motor vehicle, and other taxes. Penalties assessed on back taxes are also included.</p> <p>Licenses (32) - receipts from licenses and permits.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Revenue (33) - monies received from other governments including either the state or federal government.</p> <p>Charges for Services (34) - fees charged to users of a service to offset the incurred cost.</p>

	Fines and Forfeitures (35) - fines and other assessed financial penalties, not including tax payment penalties.
	Miscellaneous Revenue (36) - monies received from canceled warrants, refunds, and other sources.
	Reimbursements (37) - compensation for past expenditures.
	Use of Money and Property (38) - primarily investment income on idle cash.
Special Assessments	Charges assessed against property in a special district formed to pay for specific capital improvements such as streets, sewers, curbs and gutters. While charges are normally assessed on the basis of the square footage of the lot, charges alternatively may be assessed against the value of the lot, or on the basis of both lot square footage and value.
Special District	A designated geographic area in which a tax is levied to pay for specific capital improvements such as streets, sewers, curbs and gutters.
Special Liability	Any municipality may establish a special fund for the payment of costs to cover the liability of governmental entities under the Kansas Tort Claims Act.
Special Revenue Fund	A fund in which revenues are limited to a specific activity.
Tax Year	The calendar year in which ad valorem taxes are levied to finance the following calendar year budget. For example, taxes levied in 2000 finance the 2001 budgets.
Truth in Taxation	Refer to Reader's Guide under the heading "Truth in Taxation."
Unrestricted Unencumbered Cash	Carryover cash from the previous year that was not used for the current budget year, but will be used in the upcoming year.